

REMARKS

At the outset, Applicant thanks the Examiner for examining the pending application. The Office Action dated October 18, 2007 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 1-15 are rejected. Applicant has amended claims 1, 3, 7, 9, and 11-15 and canceled claim 10 to further define the invention. Support for the amendment to this feature of claim 1 can be found at least at paragraphs [0037] and [0044]. No new matter has been added. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,611,257 B1 (to Dotson et al.) hereinafter "Dotson").

Prior to addressing the merits of the Office Action, Applicant thanks the Examiner for withdrawing finality of the previous Office Action.

Further, in response to the Examiner's arguments on page 7 of the Office Action, an interface IC for RS232C communication is used to make the computer compatible with the touch controller (Specification [0036] at page 9). Further, the present invention may employ RS 232 interface and a USB connector.

The rejection of claims 1-9 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claims 1-9 are allowable over Dotson in that claims 1-9 recite a combination of elements including, for example, "a selector including at least two interface integrated circuits having communication standards different from each other, the at least two interface integrated circuits being formed in one touch controller, a sensor for detecting the presence of the interface integrated circuit connected to the computer system among the at least two interface integrated circuits, a controller for

converting the coordinate signal into a coordinate value having X-axis and Y-axis suitable for the interface integrated circuit detected at the sensor and transmitting the coordinate value to the computer system, wherein the selector selects a communication channel between the controller and the interface integrated circuit connected to the computer system”.

The rejection of claims 11-15 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claims 11-15 are allowable over Dotson in that claims 11-15 recite a combination of elements including, for example, “generating a coordinate signal corresponding to a position of a contact point, detecting the presence of an interface integrated circuit connected to a computer system among the at least two interface integrated circuits having communication standards different from each other, the at least two interface integrated circuits being formed in one touch controller, converting the coordinate signal into a coordinate value having X-axis and Y-axis suitable for the interface integrated circuit detected at a sensor by a controller, selecting a communication channel between the controller and the interface integrated circuit connected to the computer system, and transmitting the coordinate value to the computer system via the communication channel and the interface integrated circuit connected to the computer system”.

The Office Action states that “at least two interface integrated circuits connected to the touch panel” of claim 1 corresponds to eight input/output terminals 120-134 of the analog switch matrix 104 of the interface circuit 100 connected to the touch screen of Dotson. Applicants disagree. In Dotson (col. 5, lines 62 to col. 6, lines 52), input/output terminals 120-134 are connected to terminals of the touch screens

different from each other (for instance, X+ terminal, V+ terminal, X- terminal, V-terminal, Y+ terminal, Z+ terminal or so forth).

In contrast, at least two interface integrated circuits of the present invention are connected to a microcomputer included in a touch controller. Thus, Dotson fails to disclose this feature of the claimed invention.

In addition, the Office Action states that analog switch matrix of Dotson corresponds to at least two interface integrated circuits of claim 1. The analog switch matrix 104 of Dotson (col. 5, lines 37-42) comprises twenty-eight analog switches SW0-SW27. The configuration of the switch matrix is controlled by a plurality of registers 110, 112, 114, 116 and 118.

In contrast, the interface integrated circuits of the present invention have communication standards different from each other. For instance, the interface integrated circuits perform a function of supporting RS 232 communication, USB communication and so forth, respectively. The analog switch matrix 104 of Dotson performs the switching function, while the interface integrated circuits of the present invention perform a function of supporting communication standards different from each other. Thus, Dotson fails to disclose this feature of the claimed invention.

Furthermore, the Office Action states that a selector of the present invention corresponds to registers 110, 112, 114, 116 and 118 of Dotson. The registers of Dotson (col. 5, lines 45-61) control the switching of switches SW0-SW27 of the analog switch matrix 104. The selector of the present invention selects a communication channel between the controller and the interface integrated circuit connected to the computer system. Thus, Dotson fails to disclose this feature of the claimed invention.

Meanwhile, Dotson, as best understood, shows block diagrams of a touch screen interface circuit, flow chart scanning process steps, and first and second industrial control systems. However, Dotson appears to be silent on the use of one touch controller in which at least two interface integrated circuits are formed. Therefore, Dotson fails to teach or suggest those features of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1 and 11 and claims 2-9, and 12-15, which depend therefrom, are allowable over the cited reference.

Applicant believes the application is in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911.

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Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

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